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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q94801

Hiroshi SAKURAI, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/578,776

Group Art Unit: UNKNOWN

Confirmation No.: 6191

Examiner: UNKNOWN

Filed: May 9, 2006

For: CARBON FIBER NONWOVEN FABRIC, AND PRODUCTION METHOD AND USE THEREOF

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed no later than three months from the application's filing date, and therefore no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

Documents 10 - 17 noted below were previously cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed May 9, 2006, as documents that were cited in International Search Report; copies and English language Abstracts thereof have been obtained and are provided herewith.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following:

1. The disclosure on page 2 of the present specification and the submission of an English language abstract for JP-A 62-90863 each constitutes a concise statement of relevance of JP-A 62-90863; furthermore, U.S. Patent 4,668,595 cited herein corresponds to the JP 62-90863.
2. The disclosure on page 3 of the present specification and the submission of an English language abstract for JP-A 8-119614 each constitutes a concise statement of relevance of JP-A 8-119614; furthermore, U.S. Patent 5,956,225 cited herein corresponds to the JP 8-119614.
3. The disclosure on page 4 of the present specification and the submission of an English language abstract of A. NAGAE, *POROSITY CONTROL AND ABSORPTION PROPERTIES OF POROUS CARBONS PREPARED FROM PHENOL RESIN*, Summary of the 29th Carbon Society Annual Meeting (2002), pages 92 - 93 (NAGAE) each constitutes a concise statement of relevance of NAGAE.
4. The disclosure on page 4 of the present specification and the English language abstract of JP-A 2002-363858 submitted herewith each constitutes a concise statement of relevance of JP-A 2002-363858.

5. The disclosure on page 5 of the present specification and the English language abstract of JP-A 2003-033666 submitted herewith each constitutes a concise statement of relevance of JP-A 2003-03366.

6. The disclosure on page 6 of the present specification and the submission of an English language abstract of JP-B 2641712 each constitutes a concise statement of relevance of JP-B 2641712; furthermore, U.S. Patent 5,578,543 cited herein corresponds to JP-B 2641712.

7. The disclosure on page 7 of the present specification and the submission of an English language abstract of JP-B 3034027 each constitutes a concise statement of relevance of JP-B 3034027; furthermore, U.S. Patent 5,611,964 cited herein corresponds to JP-B 3034027.

8. The disclosure on page 7 of the present specification and the submission of an English language abstract of JP-B 2640183 each constitutes a concise statement of relevance of JP-B 2640183.

9. The disclosure on page 7 of the present specification and the submission of an English language abstract of JP-A 2000-8227 submitted herewith constitutes a concise statement of relevance of JP-A 2000-8227.

10. The previously noted indication in the International Search Report of the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office, and the present submission of an English language abstract for JP-A 1-282325 each constitutes a concise statement of relevance of JP-A 1-282325.

11. The previously noted indication in the International Search Report of the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office, and the present submission of an English

language abstract for JP-A 2002-285457 each constitutes a concise statement of relevance of JP-A 2002-285457.

12. The previously noted indication in the International Search Report of the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office, and the present submission of an English language abstract for WO 98/38140 each constitutes a concise statement of relevance of WO 98/38140.

13. The previously noted indication in the International Search Report of the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office, and the present submission of an English language abstract for JP-B 2646140 each constitutes a concise statement of relevance of JP-B 2646140.

14. The previously noted indication in the International Search Report of the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office, and the present submission of an English language abstract for JP-A 5-195396 each constitutes a concise statement of relevance of JP-A 5-195396.

15. The previously noted indication in the International Search Report of the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office, and the present submission of an English language abstract for JP-A 3-8811 each constitutes a concise statement of relevance of JP-A 3-8811.

16. The previously noted indication in the International Search Report of the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office, and the present submission of an English


language abstract for JP-A 11-335930 each constitutes a concise statement of relevance of JP-A 11-335930.

17. The previously noted indication in the International Search Report of the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office, and the present submission of an English language abstract for JP-A 2004-176236 each constitutes a concise statement of relevance of JP-A 2004-176236.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: August 3, 2006

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

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Complete if Known

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Application Number | 10/578,776 |
| Confirmation Number | 6191 |
| Filing Date | May 9, 2006 |
| First Named Inventor | Hiroshi SAKURAI |
| Art Unit | UNKNOWN |
| Examiner Name | UNKNOWN |
| Attorney Docket Number | Q94801 |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | | Number | Kind Code ² (if known) | | |
| | | US 4,668,595 | | 05-26-1987 | Toshino et al. |
| | | US 5,956,225 | | 09-21-1999 | Okuyama et al. |
| | | US 5,578,543 | | 11-26-1996 | Tennent et al. |
| | | US 5,611,964 | | 03-18-1997 | Friend et al. |
| | | US | | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Translation ⁶ |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| | | Country Code ³ | Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | |
| | | JP | 62-90863 | A | 04-25-1987 | ASAHI CHEMICAL CO LTD | Spec, Abstract and corresponds to USP '595 |
| | | JP | 8-119614 | A | 05-14-1996 | MITSUBISHI CHEM CORP | Spec., Abstract and corresponds to USP '225 |
| | | JP | 2002-363858 | A | 12-18-2002 | KURIHARA HIDENORI; SANYO ELECTRIC CO | Spec. and Abstract |
| | | JP | 2003-33666 | A | 02-04-2003 | DENSO CORP; NAT INST OF ADV IND & TECHNOL | Spec. and Abstract |
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| | | | | | | | |
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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published. | Translation ⁶ |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| | | A. NAGAE et al, <i>POROSITY CONTROL AND ABSORPTION PROPERTIES OF POROUS CARBONS PREPARED FROM PHENOL RESIN</i> , Summary of the 29 th Carbon Society Annual Meeting (2002), pages 92 - 93 | Abstract |
| | | A. OYA et al, <i>PREPARATION OF THIN CARBON FIBERS FROM PHENOL-FORMALDEHYDE POLYMER MICRO-BEADS DISPERSED IN POLYETHYLENE MATRIX</i> , Carbon 38, (2000), pages 1141-1144 | |
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Examiner Signature

Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or follow the hyperlink from the title of the document to the intranet. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.

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| Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary) | | | | <i>Complete if Known</i> | |
| | | | | Application Number | 10/578,776 |
| | | | | Confirmation Number | 6191 |
| | | | | Filing Date | May 9, 2006 |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | Hiroshi SAKURAI |
| | | | | Art Unit | UNKNOWN |
| | | | | Examiner Name | UNKNOWN |
| Sheet | 2 | of | 2 | Attorney Docket Number | Q94801 |

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| | | US | | | |
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| | | Country Code ³ | Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | |
| | | JP Patent No. | 3034027 | B | | | Spec. and Corresponds to USP '964 |
| | | JP Patent No. | 2640183 | B | | | Spec and Abstract |
| | | JP Patent No. | 2000-8227 | A | 01-11-2000 | | Spec and Abstract |
| | | JP | 1-282325 | A | 11-14-1989 | TORAY INDUSTRIES, INC. | ISR and Abstract |
| | | JP | 2002-285457 | A | 10-03-2002 | OSAKA GAS CO., LTD. | ISR and Abstract |
| | | WO | 98/38140 | A | 09-30-1998 | OSAKA GAS CO., LTD. | ISR and Abstract |
| | | JP Patent No. | 2646140 | B | 08-25-1997 | PETOCA, LTD. | ISR and Abstract |
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| | | JP | 2004-176236 | A | 06-24-2004 | TEIJIN LTD. | ISR and Abstract |

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published. | Translation ⁶ |
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| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or follow the hyperlink from the title of the document to the intranet. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.